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STATE FOR G (FERRAO), DRL/MLGA (SICADE), IO/RHS (LEATHAM), AND EAP/MTS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/19/2012

TAGS: PREL KDEM PHUM UNGA CH TW RP

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINES TO CONSIDER U.S. POINTS ON COMMUNITY

OF DEMOCRACIES MINISTERIAL INVITATIONS

REF: STATE 98670

Classified By: POL/C Scott Bellard for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

- 11. (SBU) In a meeting on July 18 regarding U.S. priorities for the Community of Democracies Ministerial preparatory meeting (reftel), Director Leah Ruiz of the Department of Foreign Affairs' Office of United Nations and International Organizations (UNIO) said that the Philippines "had no problems with the existing consensus," but added that UNIO, in consultation with the Philippine Embassy in Washington, would look more closely at the issue of ministerial invitations to Russia, Venezuela, Nigeria, and Taiwan.
- 12. (C) Ruiz expressed doubt that the Philippines would support the invitation of Taiwan as a "special guest." She commented on the "significant pressure" from the PRC on questions involving Taiwan, and offered the general observation that "China increasingly enters into Philippine calculations." Ruiz specifically noted that "abstentions are no longer seen as neutral by China."

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